

SQUARE DESIGN IN HIGH FAVOR

This Style of House Has Many Advantages That Combine to Make It Popular.

MONEY SAVED IN BUILDING

Same Foundation Wall and Same Size Roof Covers Both Floors—Interior Arrangement Admirable in Its Command of Light and Air.

By WILLIAM A. RADFORD.
Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all subjects pertaining to the subject of building, for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as Editor, Author and Manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on all these subjects. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 1327 Prairie avenue, Chicago, Ill., and only enclose two-cent stamp for reply.

A square-built, full two-story house is shown in this design. It is intended for a family of four or five who like to entertain their friends in a moderate way.

A house that is nearly square cuts up into comfortable rooms to better advantage than almost any other house plan. There is a great advantage in square corners that are free from roof interference, because of light and ventilation. In northern sections a house that is nearly square and is built two stories high is easily heated. There is economy in building after this fashion because the same foundation wall and the same size roof covers both floors. Such houses always look well from the street. They never go out of fashion.

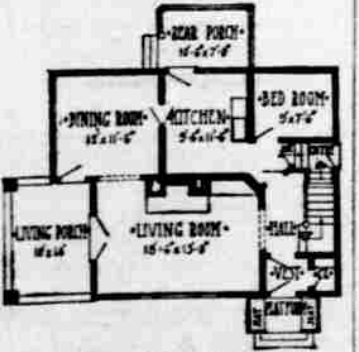
This house is built of ordinary two by fours in plank frame construction manner. The studding is boarded on the outside with cheap lumber,



and the lumber is covered with building paper and metal lath. The metal lath is filled with stucco.

In cold climates special attention is given to the window and door frames to have the stucco carefully worked into the cracks and crevices and to have the outside window casings fit close against the outside stucco finish. Sometimes fresh stucco mortar is troweled up close to the window and door frames just before nailing on the casing, so that the casing settles into the fresh, soft mortar.

The outside appearance of the house is distinguished by an old-fashioned English entrance porch at the side. This porch is artistic and in-



First Floor Plan.

teresting because of the two box seats at the sides of the entrance and the little gable end roof supported by heavy brackets that protects the front door and porch seats from the weather. On summer evenings such porch seats are occupied by the men, who like to sit and smoke and talk. Such a porch is an invitation to enjoy summer evening sociability.

Opening off from the large living room is a splendid loggia. A loggia differs from a porch or veranda in not having an outside entrance. It makes a very pleasant outdoor summer living room, that usually is furnished to suit the fancies of the younger members of the family. Sometimes loggias are fitted up extravagantly, but in most instances good taste is displayed, with comfort as the object rather than ostentation.

The main feature downstairs is the large living room 15 feet 6 inches by 12 feet. Large living rooms are designed to accommodate all the members of the family and their friends, and are supposed to be furnished accordingly.

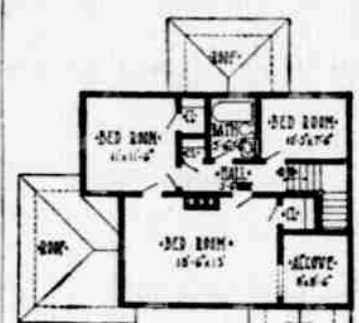
The plan here shown provides two corners for large davenport and plenty of floor space for large upholstered chairs. Large living rooms de-

mand large pieces of household furniture, or else the modern heavy upholstered chairs and davenports demand large living rooms to properly place them. At any rate, large living rooms and comfortable furniture have grown to fit each other and the two together have added more comfort to the sociable end of a modern house than any other combination.

In this particular plan the loggia may be enclosed with casement windows to shut tight in winter, so that the loggia becomes a sun parlor at attachment to the living room. This arrangement requires some means of heating the sun parlor.

There is one large chimney in the center of the house with three flues, one for the furnace and one for the kitchen range, besides center flue which goes up directly over the fireplace.

The value of a fireplace depends principally upon the flue. It is more



Second Floor Plan.

important to have a good draft for a fireplace than for a stove, because the fireplace is open and the draft cannot be so easily controlled. If a fireplace smokes it is not used. Fireplaces with fires in them are valuable as ventilators because heated air goes up with a rush that carries impurities with it.

A comfortable way to heat a house of this kind is to run the furnace low so as to take the chill out of the air in all the rooms in the house; then the additional heat from the fireplace keeps the living room comfortable.

Upstairs there are three splendid

bedrooms and a bathroom. A number of clothes closets and a linen closet help to make up the necessary conveniences of a modern house. There also is an alcove opening off from the front bedroom, which is intended to be furnished with a crib for young children.

It will be noticed that the space on the upper floor is practically all utilized for useful purposes. There is very little room taken up in the hallway. In fact, there is just enough wall space to accommodate the different doors opening into the rooms.

The outside appearance of the house may be much improved at slight expense by training climbing vines against the sides of the front porch, also the loggia may be decorated in the same way by hanging wire trellis supports from the eaves. The best trellises for climbing vines are made of square mesh wire fencing with wires six or eight inches apart. Such trellis supports are good for all kinds of climbers that hang by tendrils or by winding about the support. Trumpet vines and others that climb by rootlets should not be planted near a house. They are better on heavy wooden trellises out in the yard.

Activities of Women.

Among the over four thousand five hundred applicants for positions in New York city one recent week there were 573 women.

Unemployment caused by the war increases among women in London at the rate of 1,000 a week.

Many women are among the 120 volunteers who are furnishing blood for the wounded soldiers in the Lyons (France) hospital.

Miss Lillian Scott has been elected president of the Kansas State Teachers' association, and it is the first time in 52 years' history of the association that a woman has been so honored. Miss Scott has been head of the department of pedagogy in Baker university since 1894.

Duck Turns Into Soap.

At the State University museum is the body of a duck that has turned largely into soap. Doctor Wolcott found the bird up in the sandhill region on a recent specimen hunting trip. This is the first known specimen of the kind. Doctor Wolcott explains the phenomenon by saying that the duck was fat and the water, alkali and sun hot. The action of the latter on the alkali and the fat simply made soap of that portion of the duck that was susceptible of being so transformed.—Lincoln (Neb.) correspondent Omaha Bee.



HIS ANSWER.



Her Father—Didn't I see you kissing my daughter?
The Young Man—Can't say. I was too busy at the time to notice.

Orful!

"Music hath charms," a poet cried.
This sentiment sure makes me groan;
The poet never lived beside
A man who plays a slide trombone.

As the Years Pass.

Miss Geraldine Farrar, the famous prima donna, said in an interview in New York:

"Oh, she sings well, she is an artist, but she's rather old, you know, isn't she?"

"In singing, as in making New Year resolutions," Miss Farrar added, "the unhappy truth is that they who have done the most of it turn out the poorest quality."

His Desire.

"Where did you work last and how long?" demanded the colonel. "Did you quit of your own accord or were you discharged, and—"
"Loopy yuh, boss!" sourly returned Brother Bogus. "I isn't pulpstin' marriage to yo'; I's axin' for a job."—Puck.

The Open Season.

Amateur Hunter—I killed that one, didn't I?
Guide—Yes, sir; you killed him as dead as anybody could have killed him.

The Important Part.

"You must mind your feet if you want to learn the new dances."
"Never mind the footwork, professor. Just teach me the holds!"

Suspicion.

Waiter—What sauce will you take with your fish, sir?
Police Customer—Well, what distinguishes you from—Punch (London).

A Poor Showing.

Golfer—How did you get along with your first golf lesson?
Baseball Player—I either fanned or fouled out every time I went to bat.—Puck.

In Practice.

"And does your Adele know all she needs to enter matrimony?"
"Yes. She is still learning to open and close letters with skill."—Humorist's Listy (Prague).

The Result.

"The dressmaker has gone upstairs with my wife's new gown to give her a fit."
"Well, to judge from the sounds they're making, both must be having one."

NOT JUSTIFIED.



Mrs. B.—Your former nurse girl applied to me for a position today. Why didn't she leave her employer?
Mrs. W.—She whipped darling Fido unmercifully for almost nothing.
Mrs. B.—Indeed?
Mrs. W.—Yes, he hadn't done a thing but bite the baby.

Spirit of Loyalty.

"Didn't that man who sold you the machine tell you it had a 40 horse-power motor?"
"Yes," replied Mr. Chuggins.
"Seems kind of weak to me."
"Well, I wasn't there when they made the calculation. You know some horses are a good deal stronger than others."

Painless.

Those swollen footsies still endure.
Their danger would avert
If those who have them were not sure
The swelling doesn't hurt.

RULING PREJUDICE.

The Buyer—It looks very well. The lines are rarely beautiful. It's quite classy, in fact.
The Salesman—Yes, it's attracting a lot of attention.
"A very recent importation?"
"No."
"I beg your pardon. Am I to understand it isn't a Paris creation?"
"It isn't. It's strictly American."
"How absurd! I don't see how you have the assurance to make it so prominent. Why, the thing is absolutely impossible. There isn't a bit of style to it. Anyone can see at half a glance that it's faulty in every way. Not made in Paris! Good morning!"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Mere Nonsense.

"You used to say you depended on the wisdom of the plain people."
"Yes."
"But now and then the plain people play a trick on you and neglect to send you to congress."
"That doesn't destroy my faith in their wisdom. A little nonsense now and then is relished by the wisest men."

Full Instructions.

Tramp—If you'll gimme a meal, mum, I'll promise to turn over a new leaf.
Mrs. Sublubs—Never mind about a new leaf, take the rake and turn over those old leaves on the lawn. Then remember that one good turn deserves another and keep on till you get them into a pile.

CONSOLATION.



Mrs. Homerleigh—My daughter looks just as I did when I was her age.
Mrs. Oldun—Oh! you mustn't let that worry you. She may look entirely different to what you do when she reaches your age.

Song of the Times.

Lives of grate men all remind 'em
They never fix our stoves on 'em.
And, departing, leave behind 'em
Kitchens full of smoke and grime.

Then He Moved.

"Do you know," said the facetious "cub reporter," who was calling on Miss Peacher, "that 'u' and 'i' are close together on the keyboard of a linotype machine?"
"No," I didn't know that," answered Miss Peacher, coldly, "nor do I think it any reason why you and I should be so close together on this davenport."

In the War League.

"This war seems to have no likelihood of producing a Napoleon."
"Well, he managed his campaigns from the field. These monarchs are managing from the bench."

Suspected Him.

"I met young Jones in New York, and he told me he had become a criminal lawyer."
"The idea! You wouldn't have supposed he would have owned up."

A Business Transaction.

"My dear, the teacher turned our boy Bill out of his seat today, and told him to go home for good."
"Well, I'll write that teacher a note and tell him there'll be the devil to pay if my Bill isn't re-seated."

She Did It.

"Smith came home drunk and told his wife to make light of her troubles."
"What did she do?"
"Threw the lamp at him."

Effect of Habit.

"The doctor did not treat me at all well in that transaction."
"Doubtless, that happened from his constant practice of treating people ill."

Positive Proof.

"I can say this much for Deacon Blowater. He takes his religion seriously."
"Are you sure of that?"
"Yes. When anybody puts a counterfeit quarter in the collection plate he gets as mad as if it were a personal loss."

Putting It Over.

The fat men wear a corset now,
For which no shame is felt;
The salesman slipped it to them as
A "hygienic belt."

EXPERIMENT IN TEXAS

Valuable Light Thrown on Question of Fallowing.

No Larger Yields of Corn or Cotton From Biennially Cropped Land Than From Annually Cropped Land—Oats Show Increase.

Significant experiments in the practice of fallowing land have recently been conducted by the United States department of agriculture at San Antonio, Tex. These experiments, according to the scientists in charge, demonstrate that the practice under such conditions as prevail throughout a large part of Texas is not advisable. In no case did the investigators obtain larger crops of corn or cotton from biennially cropped land. On the other hand, biennially cropped winter oats did show a slight increase.

This increase, however, is probably not sufficient to offset certain other economic disadvantages inseparable to fallowed land. While the experiments are not conclusive, still it is believed that they throw valuable light upon the whole question of fallowing for the purpose of storing in the soil an additional supply of moisture.

The practice of fallowing varies widely in different regions. At San Antonio the fallowing period varied from sixteen to nineteen months. According to a widespread belief land cultivated for this period but bearing no crop would retain so much moisture that any crop raised on it the following year would benefit materially. Some persons have gone so far as to assert that the quantity of moisture would be practically double that in land cropped annually. If this theory could be substantiated its importance to semiarid regions is obvious. Unfortunately the results of the recent experiments which are contained in bulletin No. 151 of the United States department of agriculture, entitled, "Experiments in Crop Production on Fallow Land at San Antonio, Tex.," do not bear out this contention.

The experiments dealt with three crops, corn, cotton and oats, and covered three years, 1911, 1912 and 1913. While no explanation is offered for this totally unexpected result, the facts speak for themselves. In the case of winter oats the biennial crop shows a very appreciable increase, but it is still doubtful whether this increase means real profit.

Fallow land is not only unproductive, but its cultivation actually costs very nearly as much as does the production of a crop.

Together with other practical experiments in raising actual crops the investigators carried on a series of measurements designed to determine the comparative moisture content of annually and biennially cropped land. These measurements showed that there was only a slight difference in the moisture content at planting and harvesting times, whether the land had been fallow for a long or only a short period. Fallow land shows a somewhat higher moisture in the plots at planting time for oats but otherwise the variations were negligible. Summing the whole matter up, the investigators state that the results of these experiments indicate that biennial cropping, at least of corn, cotton and oats, is not to be recommended for the San Antonio region.

In considering the application of these experiments to other sections of the country it must be borne in mind, however, that climatic conditions at San Antonio are quite different from those prevailing in the dry farming regions farther north. The mean annual rainfall at San Antonio is reported as 26.53 inches. This would seem to make crop production fairly certain, but the rainfall is so unequal ly distributed and long droughts so common that the beneficial effects of this rainfall are much diminished. On the other hand, the winters are mild, the thermometer seldom going below 15 degrees, and plant life can grow practically throughout the year. When supplied with sufficient moisture, the soil produces abundant crops.

GENERAL FARM NOTES

Mixing plenty of litter with manure when storing hastens decomposition.

You cannot keep the pig from squealing with an empty trough before it.

Do not let another year pass without trying some new variety crop on your farm.

The New York state forest nurseries have a capacity of 25,000,000 young trees a year.

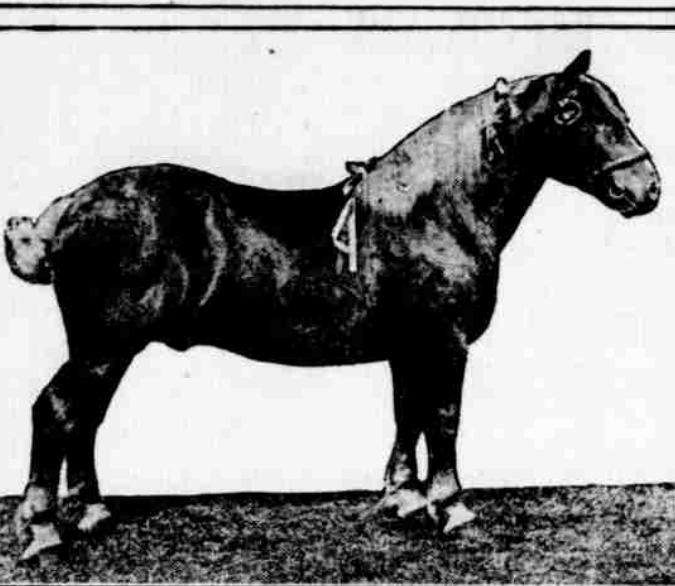
Don't cut the mane of a work horse. The long hairs are a protection to the top of the neck.

Sheep should be supplied with clean, fresh water so that they can drink when they want it.

Seasons of excessive wet or drought make "brain farming" of more value than ordinary seasons.

It is a great handicap, and may be an actual injury, to load a light horse with great heavy shoes.

CARE FOR HORSES AND MULES IN WINTER



Suffolk Stallion "Morston Peter."

(By J. M. BELL.)
A bran mash once a week is a renovator for the driving horse. Two quarts of shelled oats, and the same quantity of wheat bran, scalded about mid-day, and then covered with a blanket or cloth, to keep in the steam, add a pinch of salt, and feed at night. Give no other grain with this mash, but of course the regular ration of hay.

This once-a-week mash given preferably Saturday night, will do your riding or driving horse all the good in the world. The work stock will also appreciate the mash.

Rough up the shoes of the team that has to do any road work these sleety days, for the slipping and sliding that is incidental to work on the road in smooth shoes, is a continual strain on the muscles, and has the tendency to make the horse, not only stiff, but very sore.

Sell off the old stock. Corn and hay are both high this year, and it is a long time before spring. It is hard to put fat on these old fellows in cold weather, so you had better sell them for what they will bring, and thereby save feed and, incidentally, expense.

You may have one or more mares that did not get in foal last season. What was the matter? Was it their fault or yours? If you are a practical farmer and horsebreeder you should know what caused the failure. If you think that the mare was at fault, and if this is not the first season that you have tried her, better sell her at once. She may be all right in a team, although she may not be a good brood mare.

The plan of blanketing work horses is a very good one in many respects, but you must remember that when you once put the blanket on, you must be very careful as to how you take it off.

The stallion owner takes many risks. In the first place he has to depend in a large degree on the absolute honesty of the farmer. The writer stood both stallions and jacks for some years, and

knows whereof he speaks. If your mare gets in foal, and by any mistake loses her colt, either by slinking, or any other cause, pay your money to the stallion owner, like a man, and don't try to make him lose by your mistake. Remember that he is at considerable expense in sending this stallion around the country during the breeding season and that he has probably paid a big price for this same stallion. Then don't forget that he has to keep his horse all during the off season, whether he has made money or not.

Many a man has given up the standing of really first class stallions just because his farmer friends have not done their part to encourage him in the proper way, and that way, means that you must do your part, Mr. Farmer, if you want the stallion owners of your section to do their part.

Look out for the feet of the Jack, anyone familiar with this animal will know that their feet are liable to grow out of all shape if they are not attended to regularly. It seems to be a trait of the mule family to have bad hind feet, that is if they are not trimmed at stated intervals. Not all of course, but many of them.

The writer once stood a Jack, and by the way he was a good one, and there are a lot of serviceable mules in this section that could claim him as sire. But the hind feet of this same Jack had to be trimmed regularly or he could not make his trip from stand to stand.

In this dull winter season when you do not have the regular farm work to do, it might not be a bad plan to accumulate the colts that are old enough to work to the rights incidental to the country roads these days; for instance, the ever-present automobile is naturally a horse terror. Take out the young ones and let them get a sight of these frightful things; seeing them often will make them less terrible to the green farm colt.

CARING FOR SWINE IN COLD WEATHER

Good Time to Fian Forage Crops for Next Summer—Feeding Floor Is Urged.

A full diet of corn without plenty of water will quickly put the soundest hogs to the bad.

Many people imagine that if they give the pigs plenty of skim milk they do not need water. Milk changes to solid food almost the moment it enters the pig's stomach and is, therefore, not a substitute for water.

It costs nothing to soak hard grain in water, warm water, and when fed to pigs its digestibility is increased.

It is a prevalent notion that hogs cannot thrive except they have a mud hole in which to wallow. Nonsense! Pigs thrive better on clean pasture, clean floors and clean water than they do in dirty surroundings.

During these cold days lay out a plan for forage crops next summer. Hogs suffer from lack of pasture in the late summer as well as dairy cows.

Oats make a fine ration for hogs, but as rule they are too expensive.

Fed to sows just after farrowing, oats cannot be surpassed for keeping them in good condition.

A feeding floor will save itself in feed and manure in a single year, provided it is made of waste material around the farm.

Brick makes a fairly good feeding floor, but to be effective requires a deep foundation of broken stone, sand and cinders, and this is expensive.

A chilled pig may be revived by plunging him into a tub of warm water, just as a lamb may be.

Strange how some farmers seem to imagine that their helpless young animals can take care of themselves under the most adverse circumstances. With such men, youngsters may live if they can, as nothing is ever done to keep them from dying.

The large blacks are remarkable foragers. They pick up half their living in the grass and the stubble fields in the summer, or they may be largely fed on green stuffs in the yards when shovelled along.

Breeding sows never do so well as when allowed to take their runs abroad, and come home at night. That is so for six months out of the year.

NOT HARD TO FIND MANY LITTLE JOBS

Good Time to Lay Out Plans for Next Season's Work—Keep Stock Comfortable.

Is next summer's wood pile growing these days?

Mighty comfortable to sit around the stove and roast our shins these cold days, but our neighbor who does his planning at this time is pretty sure to beat us out on next year's crops. He manages to keep warm while he is figuring, and in this way adds to his bank account.

Tear out the entire south side of the chicken coop. If necessary, for perfect ventilation, but stop every crack near the floor.

Whitewash can be put on the poultry house and hog pens even in very cold weather, provided it is mixed with boiling water.

Many good dollars fly out through the cracks of the hog house during the cold winter nights.

Don't overlook the fact that pigs will become lousy in cold weather as well as in hot weather. Often it seems as though vermin thrive better when the weather is cold.

Good time now to build a dipping tank for the pigs, and a dip trough for the sheep.

Mighty pleasant to see a thoroughly clean horse barn in the dead of winter.

When the ground is frozen solid is the time to run the manure spreader.

No matter how cold it may be outside, if the fruit in the cellar has started to rot in the warmth, it will require prompt attention.

Once a month is not too often to look over all the fruit and vegetables stored for winter. Don't let decay get the start of you.

Poor Methods at Fault.

What we need today is better farming, better system of rotation and more land in grass. Under such management we can put stock raising on a money making basis and gradually build up our soils. The great trouble today is not that of poor land so much as it is poor methods of soil handling. Much of the trouble is due to the fact that we do not measure up to the present-day requirements as farmers.